

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a WDM optical communication system in which an optical lossy medium, optical amplifiers and Raman amplifiers for compensating for loss in the optical

5 lossy medium are cascade-connected, means are provided for acquiring the state of use of a Raman amplifier, at a node the same as that of the optical amplifier, in a link opposing a link in which the optical amplifier resides, or the state of use of a Raman amplifier at a

10 node downstream of the optical amplifier. Whether the optical amplifier is to be made to perform a slope correction is decided based upon the state of use of the Raman amplifier.